

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of customizing a print job, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an input of an application file;

~~selecting~~ receiving a selection of a preferential document-processing feature from a group of document-processing features ~~for a~~ for the print job; ~~and~~

applying a plug-in module, for supporting the preferential document-processing feature, to the application ~~file~~ file; and

wherein the preferential document-processing feature is configured to control (a) how at least two pages of the print job are printed, (b) a visual appearance of at least two pages of the print job, or (c) physical characteristics of at least two pages of the print job.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of printing at least a portion of the application file using the plug-in module for the print job.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the application file comprises a page description language file selected from the group consisting of a portable document format (PDF), printer control language (PCL), and a PostScript file.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

determining whether or not the application file represents a page description language file;

converting the received application file into a page description language file if the received application file does not represent a page description file.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the selecting step comprises:

accessing a plug-in module database to retrieve the selected plug-in module.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of customizing a print job, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an input of an application file;

converting the application file into a page description language file if the application file is in a format distinct from the page description language ("PDL") file format;

associating a preferential document-processing feature with the page description language file;

selecting a plug-in module associated with the preferential document-processing feature ~~for a~~ for the print job; ~~and~~

printing the page description language file using the selected plug-in module for a print ~~job~~ job; and

wherein the preferential document-processing feature is configured to control (a) how at least two pages of the print job are printed, (b) a visual appearance of at least two pages of the print job, or (c) physical characteristics of at least two pages of the print job.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein the page description language file is in a form selected from the group consisting of a portable document format (PDF), printer control language (PCL), and a PostScript file.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 6 wherein the selecting step comprises:

accessing a plug-in database to retrieve the selected plug-in module.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for customizing a print job, the system comprising:

a detector for receiving an input of an application file and determining whether the application file represents a page description language (“PDL”) file;

a user interface for selecting a preferential document-processing feature from a group of document-processing features; ~~and~~

a printer for applying a plug-in module, associated with the preferential document-processing features, to the application ~~file~~ file; and

wherein the preferential document-processing feature is configured to control (a) how at least two pages of the print job are printed, (b) a visual appearance of at least two pages of the print job, or (c) physical characteristics of at least two pages of the print job.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 9 where the printer includes a bitmap printing module for printing the application file.

11. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein the application file comprises a page description language file selected from the group consisting of a portable document format (PDF), printer control language (PCL), and a PostScript file.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 9 further comprising:

a converter for converting the application file to a page description language file if the application file does not represent a page description language file.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein the printer includes a customization detector, a plug-in selector, and a plug-in database; the customization detector configured to detect whether customization

data is associated with the application file, the plug-in selector in communication with the customization detector and the plug-in database for selecting an active plug-in module based on the customization data.

14. (Currently Amended) A system of customizing a print job, the system comprising:

a detector for receiving an input of an application file and determining whether the application file represents a page description language (“PDL”) file;

a data augementer for associating a preferential document-processing feature with the application file; ~~and~~
a plug-in selector for selecting a plug-in module for supporting the document-processing ~~feature~~ feature; and

wherein the preferential document-processing feature is configured to control (a) how at least two pages of the print job are printed, (b) a visual appearance of at least two pages of the print job, or (c) physical characteristics of at least two pages of the print job.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14 comprising:
a printer for printing the application file using the selected plug-in module.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 14 wherein the application file comprises a page description language file selected from the group consisting of a portable document file (PDF), printer control language (PCL), and a PostScript file.

17. (Original) The system according to claim 14 further comprising:

a converter for converting the application file to a page description language file if the application file does not represent a page description language file.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 14 wherein the plug-in selector is adapted to access a plug-in database to retrieve the selected plug-in module.

19. (Original) The system according to claim 14 wherein the data augmenter cooperates with a downloader to express the preferential document-processing feature as downloader-embedded customization data in the application file.

20. (Original) The system according to claim 14 wherein the data augmenter cooperates with a printer driver to express the preferential document-processing feature as printer-driver-embedded customization data in the application file.

21. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the plug-in module supports only the selected preferential document-processing feature.

22. (New) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the step of identifying the plug-in module based at least upon a PDL comment in the application file.

23. (New) The method of Claim 6, wherein the plug-in module supports only the preferential document-processing feature.

24. (New) The method of Claim 6, wherein the selecting step comprises selecting the plug-in module based at least upon a PDL comment in the application file.

25. (New) The system of Claim 9, wherein the plug-in module supports only the preferential document-processing feature.

26. (New) The system of Claim 9, wherein the printer identifies the plug-in module based at least upon a PDL comment in the application file.

27. (New) The system of Claim 14, wherein the plug-in module supports only the preferential document-processing feature.

28. (New) The system of Claim 16, wherein the plug-in selector identifies the plug-in module based at least upon a PDL comment in the application file.